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General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (g)
Environment and sustainable development: Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000 on the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Recalling also resolution 14 concerning the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-ninth session in November 1997,[1]

Reaffirming that the convening at Harare on 16 and 17 September 1996 of the World Solar Summit, at which the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development[2] was adopted and preparation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005[3] approved, was a step in pursuance of the implementation of Agenda 21,[4] which is a multifaceted and, at the same time, fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 aims at encompassing all forms of new and renewable energy, including solar, thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, mini-hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth session, Paris, 21 October-12 November 1997*, vol.1: *Resolutions*.

[2] A/53/395, annex, sect. II.

[3] Ibid., annex, sect. VD.

[4] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

01-61033 (E) 311001

Recalling resolution 19 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirtieth session in November 1999,[5] concerning the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005, which constitutes one of the major programmes of universal value of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 (to be revised in the light of the outcome of the thirty-first session),

Reiterating that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are imperative in the pursuit of sustainable development, which includes the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology for the application of cost-effective energy and the wider use of environment-friendly, renewable energies,

Acknowledging that the General Assembly continues to play an important role in promoting the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Acknowledging also that the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council continue to play a pivotal role as forums for the discussions on new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Welcoming the recommendation of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its ninth session in New York in April 2001[6] that Governments develop energy services, particularly in remote and rural areas and small island developing States, through, inter alia, where appropriate, the development of renewable energy sources,

Welcoming also the recommendation of the Commission on Sustainable Development that Governments, inter alia, remove barriers to the implementation of policies for renewable energy development in remote and rural areas and small island developing States and promote rural community participation,

Expressing its appreciation for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General in bringing the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 to the attention of relevant sources of funding and technical assistance,

Calling for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 is fully integrated into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the achievement of more substantive results in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 will require the active involvement of all concerned parties, including Governments, multilateral funding agencies and relevant bodies within the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on concrete action being taken for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,[7] and welcomes in particular the attempt therein to analyse and discuss the obstacles and constraints impeding the promotion of new and renewable source of energy and options for action to overcome them;

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[5] *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October-17 November 1999*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 9* (E/2001/29).

[7] A/56/129.

2. *Notes with appreciation* the role that the World Solar Commission continues to play in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects and renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

3. *Notes* that although significant financial support has been provided by some developed countries that are Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system, in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, more action still needs to be taken in this regard;

4. *Urges* national Governments and relevant stakeholders to make more use of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 as one of the vehicles to boost the development and utilization of solar energy technologies;

5. *Invites* the international community to support, as appropriate, including by providing financial resources, the efforts of developing countries to move towards sustainable patterns of energy production and consumption;

6. *Recognizes* that rural energy services, including their financing, should be designed to maximize local ownership, as appropriate;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to support, as appropriate, the efforts being made for the development of the renewable energy sector in developing countries on the basis of environment-friendly renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies beyond urban areas;

8. *Also reiterates its call upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of adequate technical assistance and funding and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of renewable sources of energy;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of sustainable energy development, which will require increased commitment on the part of all stakeholders, including Governments and the private sector, to deploy financial and manpower resources for accelerating research efforts;

10. *Recognizes* that the wider use of available renewable energy technologies requires the diffusion of available technologies on a global scale, including through North-South and South-South cooperation;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the lead role that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization continues to play in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, in particular its efforts, in association with multilateral partners and national specialized institutions, to enhance bilateral and regional cooperation through the co-organization of regional and subregional business and investment forums;

12. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization regarding the contribution of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005 in attaining the objective of sustainable development,[5] and encourages the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in this context, to mobilize resources, both human and financial, as mandated, to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme and make efforts to promote public awareness in all Member States in this regard, with the support of international, regional and national institutions, both public and private;

13. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make effective the implementation of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005 in the different regions and to strengthen the implementation of all its chapters;

14. *Encourages* the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Energy to continue its efforts to ensure that the work of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 is fully integrated into the mainstream of efforts of the United Nations system to achieve the objectives of sustainable development and to coordinate the contributions of all relevant organizations of the United Nations system to the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in 2002;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, the Global Environment Facility, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on concrete action being taken for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the effective implementation of, and mobilization of resources for, the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005".

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Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (d)
Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/201 of 20 December 2000 on the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1] in which it proclaimed 22 May, inter alia, the date of the adoption of the text of the Convention, as the International Day for Biological Diversity,

Recognizing the importance of the adoption by the Conference of the Parties, in its decision EM-I/3 of 29 January 2000,[2] of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the subsequent signature of the Protocol up to 2 July 2001 by one hundred parties to the Convention and the ratification made by five of these parties to the Convention,

Expressing its appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as well as the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, which will be held at The Hague from 8 to 26 April 2002,

Also expressing its appreciation for the kind offer of the Government of Germany to host the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, which addresses the appropriate access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of its utilization, held at Bonn from 22 to 26 October 2001,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[2] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

01-61041 (E) 311001

Urging the parties to the Convention to undertake thorough preparations to advance progress at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to decide upon the outstanding issues that are included in its agenda,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;[3]

2. *Takes note also* of the outcome of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol, held at Nairobi from 1 to 5 October 2001;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not joined the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] to become parties to it, without further delay;

4. *Calls upon* Member States that are parties to the Convention to sign and ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[2] as soon as possible;

5. *Invites* all funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the implementation of the programme of work;

6. *Requests* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development when setting the dates of meetings of the conferences of the parties so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

7. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to settle urgently any arrears and to pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

8. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[3] See A/56/126.

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Agenda item 98
Environment and sustainable development

Tajikistan and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, in which it proclaimed 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater,

Recalling also chapter 18 of Agenda 21[1] relating to protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources, as well as chapter 13, entitled "Managing fragile ecosystems: sustainable mountain development", and taking into account that 80 per cent of accessible freshwater originates in mountains,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

Reaffirming the target of reducing by half, between 2000 and 2015, the proportion of people who lack sustainable access to adequate sources of affordable and safe water,[2]

Noting the preparations for the Third World Water Forum, to be held at Kyoto, Japan, in March 2003, and the elaboration of the World Water Development Report,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003,[3]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] A/54/2000, para. 281, and United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2), para. 19.

[3] A/56/189.

01-61432 (E) 011101

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by Governments, United Nations organizations, especially those represented on the Subcommittee on Water Resources of the Administrative Committee on Coordination,[4] and non-governmental organizations in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, especially as regards awareness-raising, and encourages them to continue and expand their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all States, the United Nations system and other actors to take advantage of the International Year of Freshwater to raise awareness of the strategic importance of achieving sustainable development and use of the freshwater resources of the world, which are essential for satisfying basic human needs, health and food production, economic and social development and the preservation of ecosystems, and to assign high priority to the formulation and implementation of action-oriented policies and programmes for the sustainable use of freshwater for social and economic purposes;

3. *Also encourages* all States, national and international organizations, major groups and the private sector to support local, national and international programmes and projects for the International Year of Freshwater, inter alia, through voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session an interim report on the activities undertaken in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003.

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[4] The status of the Subcommittee is currently under review as part of the reform of the machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination as a whole.

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Agenda item 98 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and the decisions adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development at its organizational session,[1]

Encouraging countries and relevant regional and international organizations to support the preparatory processes,

Welcoming the preparatory activities undertaken at the national level, encourages all countries to energize this work and calls on the United Nations system to support such activities,

Welcoming also the activities of major groups related to the preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Encouraging new initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of Agenda 21[2] and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[3] and other relevant outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development through strengthening global commitments, including partnerships

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Ibid., annex I.

01-61438 (E) 011101

between Governments of the North and the South on the one hand, and between Governments and major groups on the other,

Expressing its appreciation of the work undertaken by South Africa and Indonesia as the host Governments of the Summit and of the fourth session of the preparatory committee at the ministerial level;

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Approves* the provisional rules and procedures of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as recommended by the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development at its organizational session;[5]

3. *Requests* the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit to decide on all remaining issues related to the organization of work of the Summit, including specific details of the series of events to be held in partnership with stakeholders, the short multi-stakeholder event involving the highest level of representation from major groups and Governments and the round-table meetings to be held at the level of heads of State or Government;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to launch a comprehensive and proactive public information campaign with sufficient financial resources to raise global awareness of the World Summit on Sustainable Development while also building broad international support for the World Summit and its goals;

5. *Invites* donors to continue providing extrabudgetary resources in support of the preparatory activities for the Summit, as well as the travel of representatives from the developing countries to attend the sessions of the preparatory committee and the Summit;

6. *Calls upon* relevant regional and international organizations to further step up their efforts to assist countries in completing their national assessment reports in time;

7. *Reiterates* that the Summit, including its preparatory process, should ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection since these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

8. *Encourages* the active involvement of all relevant regional and international agencies and organizations to provide input and contributions to the preparatory process of the World Summit;

9. *Emphasizes* that the outcome of all intergovernmental processes relevant to the World Summit be submitted as input for consideration by the preparatory committee, in conformity with the decision taken at its organizational session;[6]

10. *Reiterates* the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee as the sole global intergovernmental process for

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[4] A/56/379.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. A.

[6] Ibid., sect. B, resolution 2001/PC/1.

the preparation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and emphasizes the mandate and role of its Bureau, as stipulated by the General Assembly in resolution 55/199 and the decisions adopted by the preparatory committee at its organizational session;[1]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21", taking into account the outcome of the World Summit.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Environment and sustainable development:
International strategy for disaster reduction

Islamic Republic of Iran* and Mexico: draft resolution

International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Noting that the signing of the memorandum of cooperation between the Republic of Ecuador and the World Meteorological Organization[1] constitutes a major step in the process for the establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters resulting from the El Niño phenomenon,

1. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Commends* the measures adopted by the host country for the establishment of the international centre for the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

3. *Calls* upon the Secretary-General and the relevant United Nations organs, funds and programmes, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and the international community to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to support the establishment of the above-mentioned research

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/C.2/56/2, appendix.

[2] A/56/76-E/2001/54.

01-61567 (E) 011101

centre at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for that purpose;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of the working group on climate and disasters and invites the Inter-agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and the Inter-agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to ensure functional synergies among the working groups dealing with climate variability, economic and social vulnerability and effectiveness of early warning systems;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200, 53/185, 54/220 and 55/197 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46, 1999/63 and 2000/33;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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Second Committee
Agenda item 99 (a)
Operational activities for development: triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997 and 53/192 of 15 December 1998, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1998/26 of 26 July 1998, 1999/5 and 1999/6 of 23 July 1999, 2000/19 and 2000/20 of 28 July 2000 and 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[1]

Reaffirming that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have an important role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead role in the management of their own development process in a continuously changing global context,

Reaffirming also that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of developing countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of recipient developing countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 55/2.

01-61731 (E) 021101

Stressing that national plans and priorities constitute the only viable frame of reference for the national programming of operational activities for development within the United Nations system and that programmes should be based on such development plans and priorities and should therefore be country-driven,

Stressing also that the United Nations development system, in order to ensure national ownership of its operational activities for development and assist programme countries in meeting the current challenges of globalization and international development goals, should integrate its country-level operations with national policies and programmes under the leadership and with the full participation of the Government,

Stressing further, in that context, the need to take into account the time-bound targets identified in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes and commitments of relevant major United Nations conferences, as well as the individual mandates and complementarities of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations development system,

Bearing in mind that the effectiveness of operational activities should be assessed by their impact on the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of developing countries,

Recognizing that globalization, technological change and the need for the integration of the developing countries in the world economy represent major challenges for development,

Recognizing also that new technologies, including information and communication technologies, present an opportunity to accelerate development in developing countries, but that the access to those technologies is uneven and that a digital divide still exists between developing countries and the rest of the world,

Noting that, while the scope of operational activities of the organizations of the United Nations system includes situations where a more flexible response capacity of the system is required, the focus of operational activities should be on actions that have a long-term impact on poverty eradication and development in accordance with the respective mandates of the United Nations funds and programmes,

Recognizing the urgent and specific needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries,

Emphasizing that developing countries are responsible for their development processes and in this context stressing the responsibility of the international community, in partnership, to assist developing countries in their national development efforts,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that policies formulated by the General Assembly, in particular during the triennial policy review of operational activities, are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Recognizing that the preference for short-term and earmarked development funding has resulted in the failure to reach a critical mass of core resources required for long-term development cooperation and compromised the efficient use of funds for attaining development goals and towards more integrated development support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[2] and on progress in the implementation of the multi-year funding frameworks and evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[3]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 47/199, 50/120, 53/192 and the parts relevant to operational activities for development of its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, and stresses the need to implement fully, on the basis of lessons learned, all the elements of those resolutions in a coherent and timely manner, keeping in mind their interlinkages;

3. *Emphasizes* that recipient Governments have the primary responsibility for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development process;

4. *Emphasizes also* the need to fulfil the commitments, goals and targets set in the Millennium Declaration and by the major United Nations conferences, and in that context reiterates the importance of continuously monitoring progress made in that direction;

5. *Stresses* that the United Nations development system, in order to ensure national ownership of its operational activities for development and assist programme countries in meeting the current challenges of globalization and international development goals, should integrate its country-level operations with national policies and programmes under the leadership and with the full participation of the Government;

I. Role of operational activities in response to global challenges

6. *Stresses also* the need for all organizations of the United Nations development system to focus their efforts at the field level on priority areas, in accordance with the priorities identified by recipient countries, in particular assisting programme countries to respond more effectively to the economic and social impact of globalization, facilitating their integration into the world economy, accelerating their economic growth and development and reducing their poverty;

7. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system to review, in consultation with the Governments concerned, the technical skill profiles of their country offices in order to respond to the requests for support from programme countries;

8. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adapt their strategies and activities and enhance their coordination and collaboration, taking into account the need to assist programme countries in attaining the development goals of the Millennium Summit and major United Nations conferences;

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[2] A/56/320 and Add.1.

[3] A/56/70-E/2001/58.

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support, through its operational activities for development, national efforts to acquire the capacities and infrastructure required to mobilize information and communication technologies and put them at the service of development, and encourages all organizations of the system to collaborate with the recently established United Nations task force on information and communication technologies;

II. Funding for operational activities for development of the United Nations system

10. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, are the bedrock of the operational activities of the United Nations system and, in this regard, notes with serious concern the overall decline or stagnation in core resources available to the United Nations funds and programmes, and emphasizes the need for a substantial and sustained increase in the core or regular resources for operational activities for development;

11. *Notes with regret* that, although significant progress has already been achieved on the governance and functioning of the United Nations development system, there has not been, as part of that overall process of change, a significant increase in core resources for operational activities for development, and expresses serious concern at the persistent insufficiency of resources for the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in particular in terms of contributions to core resources;

12. *Strongly reaffirms* that the impact of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, inter alia, a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, as well as through the full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 47/199, 48/162, 50/120, 52/203 and 53/192 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/19;

13. *Reaffirms* the need for priority allocation of scarce grant resources to programmes and projects in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries;

14. *Requests* that the establishment of new trust funds by United Nations funds and programmes be done on an exceptional basis after consultation with and approval by the respective executive boards;

15. *Stresses* the need for continuous overall improvement in the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the United Nations system in delivering its development assistance and welcomes steps that have been taken to that end, and encourages the use of information technologies as a means to support more effectively the delivery of development cooperation by the United Nations system;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of shared responsibility in a spirit of partnership, taking into account official development assistance targets, including targets established at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, underlines the need to avoid overdependence on a limited number of donors, and calls on donors to increase their contributions to the core or regular resources of United Nations funds and programmes, encouraging donor countries to increase multi-year pledging commitments of core resources;

17. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its substantive session of 2003, the conclusions reached at the present triennial policy review on resources for operational activities for development, as well as the conclusions of the International Conference on Financing for Development planned for 2002, reviewing the progress on the issue of funding of development cooperation activities of the United Nations system;

III. Capacity-building

18. *Stresses* that capacity-building and its sustainability should be explicitly articulated as a goal of technical assistance provided by operational activities with the aim of strengthening national capacities, and requests the United Nations organizations to review their efforts in the field of capacity-building and to report, through the Secretary-General, to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002 on the results achieved in this area;

19. *Reiterates* the need to intensify the use by the United Nations system, to the fullest extent possible and practicable, of available national expertise and indigenous technologies in the implementation of operational activities and in the recruitment and training of national project personnel, including national consultants, for the formulation and implementation of development projects and programmes supported by the United Nations development system;

IV. United Nations Development Assistance Framework

20. *Takes note* of the national experiences related to the introduction of the pilot phase of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment, and also takes note of the evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

21. *Encourages* the United Nations system to ensure that the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment constitute a country-driven, collaborative and coherent response of the United Nations system to national priorities and policies, as expressed in relevant national development plans and strategies;

22. *Recognizes* that the major coordinating responsibilities of the Government of programme countries in the formulation of coordination frameworks, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment, require its full involvement and leadership;

23. *Requests* the United Nations system to intensify capacity-building initiatives to support national Governments in their function of coordinating all forms of external assistance, including that received from the United Nations system, also through a more effective involvement of programme countries in the management of all forms of coordination frameworks;

24. *Recommends* to the organizations of the United Nations system that, when the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment are undertaken, measures should be adopted to simplify programming and country assessment procedures so as to reduce transaction costs and avoid additional procedural requirements and workload for recipient countries;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to undertake an evaluation of the progress of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment processes and their impact on the field of operational activities, as an integral part of the next triennial policy review of operational activities, and to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2004, on the results of such an evaluation, including lessons learned and recommendations made, for consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

V. Evaluation of operational activities for development

26. *Emphasizes* the importance of the monitoring and evaluation of the operational activities of the United Nations system in the context of the programme approach, in order to enhance the effectiveness and impact, in the context of the programme approach, of development cooperation of the system on the recipient countries, and reiterates that the monitoring and evaluation process of operational activities, including where appropriate joint evaluations by the United Nations system, should be impartial and independent, under the overall leadership of the Government;

27. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the capacities of the recipient countries to perform effective programme, project and financial monitoring, as well as impact evaluations of operational activities funded by the United Nations, and underlines the importance of promoting, under the leadership of Governments, greater collaboration on questions relating to evaluation among recipient Governments and the United Nations development system at the country level;

28. *Recognizes* that a comprehensive approach to monitoring and evaluation calls for a closer involvement of national authorities in the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of operational activities, to ensure that the results of those evaluations are utilized to improve the content of developmental activities and their impact;

29. *Takes note* of the impact evaluations of capacity-building and poverty eradication undertaken according to resolution 53/192, and requests the organizations of the United Nations system to review the conclusions reached by those evaluations and lessons learned in the light of their own experience and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002, through the Secretary-General, on the results of that review;

30. *Requests* that the impact evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system be continued on a more extensive scale, urges donor countries to provide the necessary support for this effort, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the results of this impact evaluation activity to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, in the context of the triennial policy review;

31. *Reiterates* the call in resolution 53/192 for recipient Governments concerned to be fully and effectively involved in the impact evaluation of operational activities, and encourages the United Nations system to support those countries that intend to undertake the evaluations themselves, as and when required;

32. *Reiterates also* the need for the United Nations system to strengthen its efforts, in consultation with recipient countries, to ensure that the lessons learned

from both monitoring and evaluation exercises are systematically applied to programming processes at the operational level and that evaluation criteria are built into all projects and programmes at their design stage, requests the funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system to carry out an assessment and disseminate the experience so acquired through effective and efficient cooperation within the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2002 on this matter;

VI. Simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures

33. *Reaffirms* that simplification and harmonization of procedures, as well as their decentralization, as adopted by the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, should be responsive to the needs of developing countries;

34. *Notes* the progress achieved in the simplification and harmonization of programming cycles and rules and procedures, and calls on the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to improve coordination efforts in the field by taking further steps at the headquarters level to enhance and ensure the sustainability of this process;

35. *Emphasizes* that the simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures should aim at reducing, where appropriate, the complexities and diversity of requirements, which still place enormous burdens on the recipient countries through high transaction costs, and that innovations in this area should ensure, in their implementation, the full participation of the Government, with the objective of reducing administrative and financial costs to the recipient country as well as to the United Nations system;

36. *Calls upon* the United Nations system for an assessment of the transaction costs borne by recipient countries in programming and implementing operational activities for development, and their comparison with the total expenditures of operational activities in the field, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this question to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2003;

37. *Recognizes* that the diversity of the programming procedures of the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies results from the diversity of their mandates as well as the decisions of their respective governing bodies, nevertheless calls upon those organizations to make special efforts to utilize all avenues for stronger cooperation and coordination, which should be complementary to similar coordination efforts at the country level, and urges them to keep recipient countries fully informed of headquarters decisions;

38. *Requests* the United Nations Development Group and the Administrative Committee on Coordination to address the requirements for further simplification of procedures and to submit, through the Secretary-General, a yearly report to the Economic and Social Council on progress achieved in these areas;

VII. Resident coordinator system

39. *Reaffirms* that the resident coordinator system is an important vehicle in the effective and efficient functioning of the United Nations system at the country level and a key instrument for the efficient and effective coordination of the

operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and requests the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat, to continue to provide support to the resident coordinator system;

40. *Recognizes* efforts, including those made through the United Nations Development Group, to further improve the resident coordinator system, and appreciates the progress achieved so far in broadening the pool of resident coordinators and in improving their gender balance, and invites the funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system to make further efforts in that direction;

41. *Encourages* the establishment of more effective mechanisms for a more direct and immediate dialogue, feedback, participation and interaction between the resident coordinator and the specialized agencies, including small technical agencies and organizations of the United Nations system without field level representation, also through a wider use of information and communication technologies;

42. *Recognizes* the need to engage more effectively and substantively the Government of the recipient country in joint activities of the resident coordinator system, such as theme groups, including for planning and programming;

43. *Requests* the resident coordinator system to assist Governments in their efforts towards implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, and encourages further work by the country-level theme groups;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue improving and strengthening the resident coordinator system through the support and participation of all organizations of the United Nations system, including those with no field-level representation and the regional commissions, on the basis of their respective mandates and in close consultation with the national Government;

VIII. Planning, programming and implementation

45. *Encourages* greater cooperation among the World Bank, regional development banks and all funds and programmes with a view to increased complementarity and better division of labour, as well as enhanced coherence in their sectoral activities, building on the existing arrangements and fully in accordance with the priorities of the recipient Government;

46. *Notes* the progress achieved in the area of common premises and shared services at the country level within the United Nations system, recognizes the need to justify the pursuit of common premises on the basis of the adequate nature and size of the development cooperation programmes and projects, reaffirms the need to take fully into account cost-benefit studies as called for in relevant resolutions, and encourages further implementation of such initiatives, where appropriate, while ensuring that there will be no additional burden imposed on host countries;

47. *Recognizes* that the utilization of advanced information and communication technologies could also provide the necessary platform for more coordination and cohesion at the field level;

IX. Humanitarian assistance

48. *Reiterates* that the phases of relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development often overlap and occur simultaneously, and notes the need for a comprehensive approach to countries in crisis, national authorities having a lead role in all aspects of the recovery plan, and also notes in this context the need for an early application of developmental tools in humanitarian emergencies;

49. *Stresses* that contributions to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance and that additional resources for humanitarian assistance should be made available by the international community;

X. Gender

50. *Notes* the progress achieved in gender mainstreaming in operational activities;

51. *Also notes* the continuing efforts to improve the gender balance on appointments within the United Nations system at the headquarters and at the country level in positions that affect operational activities;

52. *Calls* for renewed efforts in gender mainstreaming in the framework of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in all fields, in particular in support of poverty eradication;

XI. Regional dimensions of operational activities

53. *Reiterates* the growing need for incorporating the regional and sub-regional dimension, where appropriate, in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and encourages the resident coordinators, in close consultation with Governments, to secure greater involvement of the regional commissions, taking into account their agreed mandates and work programmes, in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as appropriate;

XII. South-South cooperation/economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

54. *Notes* that country-driven programming offers additional opportunities for greater use of technical cooperation among developing countries modalities by programme countries, and reiterates its call on the United Nations system to take more concerted and coordinated measures to improve the effective incorporation of technical cooperation among developing countries into their programmes and projects and to intensify efforts, including by developing specific mechanisms to mainstream this modality into the United Nations coordination frameworks in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme, and all other relevant international institutions;

55. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation, including technical and economic cooperation among developing countries, offers viable opportunities for the development of developing countries, and in this context requests the executive boards of the funds and programmes to review, with a view to considering an increase, the allocation of resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;

56. *Requests* the United Nations system to take appropriate measures to improve the effective incorporation of technical cooperation among developing countries into their programmes and projects, and to intensify efforts towards mainstreaming the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries, including through support for the activities of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and encourages other relevant international institutions to take similar measures;

XIII. Follow-up

57. *Reaffirms* that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should take appropriate action for the full implementation of the present resolution, and reiterates the request to the executive heads of those funds, programmes and specialized agencies to submit a yearly progress report to their governing bodies on measures taken and envisaged for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as appropriate recommendations;

58. *Invites* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes to ensure that the heads of those funds and programmes include in their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, prepared in accordance with Council resolution 1994/33 of 28 July 1994, a thorough analysis of problems encountered and lessons learned, with emphasis on issues arising from the implementation of the Secretary-General's reform programme, the triennial policy review and the follow-up to the Millennium Declaration and major United Nations conferences, so as to allow the Council to fulfil its coordinating role;

59. *Reiterates* the provisions of its resolution 48/162, which details the respective functions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the Economic and Social Council, within its institutional role, to provide overall guidance to the United Nations system on operational activities for development;

60. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, during the operational activities segment of its substantive session, to focus on lessons learned and impact evaluations in the implementation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and to provide the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system with policy guidance;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consultation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to submit a progress report to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2002, on an appropriate management process, containing clear guidelines, targets, benchmarks and time-frames for the full implementation of the present resolution;

62. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, during the operational activities segment of its substantive sessions of 2002 and 2003, to examine the operational activities of the United Nations system in order to evaluate the implementation of the present resolution with a view to ensuring its full implementation;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the triennial policy review, and to make appropriate recommendations.

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 99 (b)
Operational activities for development: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Iran (Islamic Republic of):* draft resolution

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences and for ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the newly emerging global economic system,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, and reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation through the modality of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1] 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation and 50/119 of 20 December 1995, 52/205 of 18 December 1997 and 54/226 of 22 December 1999 on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, as well as other relevant resolutions of the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1979* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

01-61742 (E) 021101

General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reiterating the continued relevance and validity of the principles and objectives embodied in the Group of 77's Caracas Programme of Action (1981)[2] on economic cooperation among developing countries, the San Jose Declaration and Plan of Action (1997)[3] on South-South cooperation in trade, investment and finance, the Bali Declaration and Plan of Action (1998)[4] on regional and subregional economic cooperation and integration, the Declaration of the South Summit and Havana Programme of Action (2000),[5] which accorded South-South cooperation high priority in order for developing countries to meet new development challenges, as well as other relevant declarations and plans of action,

Taking note of the Ministerial Statement adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77 at their twenty-fourth annual meeting,[6] held in New York on 15 September 2000, in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation was emphasized,

Welcoming the Tehran Consensus adopted by the Group of 77 at the Tenth Meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries,[7] held at Tehran from 18 to 22 August 2001, which calls for consolidating the South-South platform, building stronger South institutions at the global level, bridging the knowledge and information gap, building broad-based partnerships and mobilizing global support for South-South cooperation,

1. *Endorses* the report of the High Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its twelfth session[8] and the decisions adopted by the High Level Committee at that session;[9]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[10]

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the significant increase and expanded use of South-South cooperation by developing countries as an important and effective instrument of international cooperation and, in this connection, urges developing countries in a position to do so to intensify technical and economic cooperation initiatives at the regional and inter-regional levels in areas such as health, education, training, agriculture, science and new technologies, and in particular information and communication technologies;

4. *Reiterates* that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for, but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation and, in that connection, notes with appreciation the increasing number of developed countries and development foundations supporting South-South cooperation activities through

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[2] A/36/333 and Corr.1, annex.
[3] A/C.2/52/8, annex.
[4] A/53/739, annexes I and II.
[5] A/55/74, annexes I and II.
[6] A/55/459, annex.
[7] A/56/358 and Corr.1.
[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/56/39).
[9] Ibid., annex I.
[10] A/56/465.

a variety of triangular arrangements, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects and third-country training programmes;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by a number of countries to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, and to the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and invites all countries to contribute to the Trust Funds in support of a revitalized South-South platform designed to benefit developing countries, especially the least developed, landlocked and small island developing States;

6. *Recognizes* the urgent need to build stronger South institutions, including policy research and development institutions and centres of excellence, especially at the regional, inter-regional and global levels, and to have linkages among them through networking arrangements, and by making more effective use of the South's institutional capacity, so as to improve South-South knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and information flow, and policy analysis and coordination among developing countries on major development issues of common concern;

7. *Requests* all organizations and agencies of the United Nations development system to make concerted and intensified efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation by way of giving such cooperation appropriate consideration in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation and, in this context, welcomes decision 2001/2, of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, in which the Board requested the Administrator to consider reviewing, in the context of the successor programming arrangements, the allocation of additional resources for activities involving technical cooperation among developing countries;

9. *Recognizes* the need for raising public awareness of and support for South-South cooperation as a dynamic form of international development cooperation which can give real content to the concept of ownership and partnership, and for this reason, welcomes the Tehran Consensus proposal to launch the first International Decade on South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through coordination of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme and in consultation with relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in the South, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on requirements and possible activities to be carried out during the proposed International Decade for South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the separate identity of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries is maintained and to further strengthen its institutional capacity through mobilizing additional resources to

enable it to execute its increased responsibilities effectively as the United Nations system focal point on South-South cooperation;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries", and in that context requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to it at that session a report on the state of South-South cooperation and a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/56/L.15

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Islamic Republic of Iran* and Mexico: draft resolution

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998 and 54/219 of 22 December 1999, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001,

Also recalling the forward-looking platform for international concerted disaster reduction as developed by the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and as expressed in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[1] as well as the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction and the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",[2]

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieve jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Having considered the current institutional arrangement, as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/219 of 22 December 1999, with the Inter-agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction and the inter-agency secretariat for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and taking into account the assessment after the first period of operations,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, annex I.

[2] Adopted by the programme forum on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999.

01-62023 (E) 051101

Recognizing that disaster reduction is an important element contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and that it should be taken into account in the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg in 2002,

Reiterating that natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, although the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper their sustainable development,

Welcoming the emphasis placed on natural disaster reduction in the Plan of Action for Least Developed Countries, adopted in Brussels in May 2001,

Recognizing that disaster reduction should be regarded as an important function of the United Nations and should receive continued attention,

Stressing the need for the international community to demonstrate the firm political determination required to utilize scientific and technical knowledge to reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental hazards, taking into account the particular needs of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the Implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[3]

2. *Expresses* deep concern at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies worldwide, in particular in developing countries;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction should perform the functions as indicated in the report of the Secretary General,[3] in particular to serve as a main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and to ensure complementary action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness, and also decides to review the activities of the Task Force in 2003;

4. *Decides* that the Task Force should be modified in order to provide for increased participation, on a permanent basis, of regional intergovernmental organizations as well as to ensure the continued membership of the key United Nations agencies;

5. *Recognizes* that the Framework of Action for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, as endorsed by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction, constitutes the basic guide for the implementation of the Strategy, and that this framework shall be periodically reviewed, according to the evolving needs in the field of natural disaster reduction and, in this context, urges all relevant bodies within the United Nations system to cooperate fully within the context of this framework;

6. *Further stresses* that the inter-agency secretariat for the implementation of the Strategy should be strengthened to effectively perform its functions, in particular to serve as the focal point within the United Nations system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among disaster-reduction

[3] A/56/68-E/2001/63.

activities of the United Nations system and regional organizations and activities in socio-economic and humanitarian fields;

7. *Calls* upon the Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters, and urges the Strategy secretariat to develop such synergies, as appropriate;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources for the effective functioning of the Task Force and the Secretariat, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat;

9. *Calls* upon Governments to establish national platforms or focal points for disaster reduction, and urges the United Nations system to provide appropriate support for these mechanisms, and invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the regional outreach of the Strategy secretariat in order to ensure appropriate United Nations system support for these mechanisms;

10. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen national participation, in particular of disaster-prone countries, in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, including through national multisectoral and interdisciplinary platforms, in order to achieve sustainable development goals and objectives, with the full utilization of scientific and technical knowledge, including through capacity-building at all levels and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen coordination of national emergency response agencies;

11. *Calls* upon Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters within the framework of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, based upon an effective division of labour, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, including through capacity-building at all levels, and the development and strengthening of global and regional approaches that take into account regional, subregional, national and local circumstances and needs, as well as the need to strengthen coordination of national emergency response agencies in natural disasters;

12. *Recognizes* the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizes the need for developing countries to have access to technology to effectively tackle natural disasters;

13. *Urges* the international community to increase financial contributions to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and to provide adequate scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the Strategy secretariat, the Task Force and its working groups;

14. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in the implementation of its goals, including by seconding technical staff to the Strategy secretariat;

15. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to review the implementation of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[1] within the context of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction framework for action;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to optimize further and disseminate through all available channels, including handbooks and information systems, the information necessary for the effective management of international cooperation in the fields of disaster prevention, early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

17. *Reiterates* the need to continue international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon, within the framework of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, as requested in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 2000/33 of 28 July 2000 and General Assembly resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999 and 55/197 of 20 December 2000;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of early warning as an essential element in the culture of prevention, and encourages renewed efforts at all levels to contribute to natural hazard monitoring and impact prediction, the development and transfer of technology, capacity-building for disaster preparedness, the detection of natural hazards and the issuance and communication of early warning, as well as education and professional training, public information and awareness-raising activities, and stresses the need for appropriate action in response to early warning;

19. *Reaffirms* the need for strengthening the international framework for the improvement of early warning systems and disaster preparedness by developing an effective international mechanism for early warning, including the transfer of technology related to early warning to developing countries, which ensures that vulnerable people receive appropriate and timely information, as well as expanding and improving existing systems, in particular those under the auspices of the United Nations, as an integral part of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

20. *Decides* to maintain the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on the second Wednesday of October, as a vehicle to promote a global culture of natural disaster reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the progress made in the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction under the agenda item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (e)
Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997, 53/189 of 15 December 1998, 54/224 of 22 December 1999 and 55/202 of 20 December 2000,

Recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[2] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also the Declaration[3] and review document[3] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[4]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[4] TD/390.

01-62036 (E) 051101

Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from their smallness, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited fresh water supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to enhance their capacities to function effectively within the new globalized trading arrangements,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[5]

Welcoming the report of the first Alliance of Small Island States workshop on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[6] held in Saint Kitts and Nevis in December 2000, and the report of the third Alliance of Small Island States workshop on climate change, energy and preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[7] held in Cyprus in January 2001,

Noting the significant efforts to implement the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, including through necessary financial support in partnership with the international donor community,

Acknowledging the efforts of small island developing States to convene, in cooperation with the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, a series of capacity-building workshops targeted at issues of specific relevance to small island developing States,

Welcoming the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Welcoming also the offer of the Government of Jamaica to host the first Alliance of Small Island States workshop on trade, sustainable development and small island developing States in December 2001,

Noting the current efforts of the Alliance of Small Island States to organize an interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States for the World Summit for Sustainable Development, to be held in Singapore in January 2002, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 2001/PC/1 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[8]

Emphasizing the critical need for the financing of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at

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[5] A/56/170.

[6] A/55/765, annex.

[7] E/CN.17/2001/11, annex.

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. B.

the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[9]

Noting with appreciation the contribution by some donor countries towards further implementation of the Programme of Action, and underlining the need for those efforts to be intensified and supplemented by other donor countries and agencies,

Noting the work being undertaken by the Committee for Development Policy and other international organizations on a vulnerability index, which incorporates, inter alia, environmental and economic vulnerability factors,

1. *Reiterates* the urgent need for strong and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[2] and of the Declaration[3] and review document[3] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session to assist small island developing States in their efforts to enhance their capacities to effectively mitigate the impacts of globalization and achieve sustainable development;

2. *Welcomes* efforts at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

3. *Invites* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, within their respective mandates, to reflect measures for the implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes;

4. *Calls* upon donors, as well as all relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations, to support the interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States to be held in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action;

6. *Urges* all relevant organizations, in particular the Committee for Development Policy, to finalize as a matter of urgency the work on the development of a vulnerability index to assist affected developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in bringing resolution to their concerns;

7. *Welcomes* the strengthened Small Island Developing States Unit of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to consider ways to further strengthen the Unit, inter alia, by establishing the Small Island Developing States Information Network within the Unit and by assisting small island developing States with, inter alia, project implementation advice and assistance in the identification of short and long-term capacity needs through coordination with regional and international institutions, and to make proposals in that regard;

8. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to consider further ways and means of increasing and improving the United Nations system-wide coordination of and dissemination of information on activities in support of small island developing

[9] See A/S-22/4.

States and the Programme of Action, through the Small Island Developing States Unit, including an inter-agency task force to carry out these tasks;

9. *Welcomes* the contributions of donor countries to the strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit and SIDSnet, and encourages other Member States to make contributions, in particular in support of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/56/L.16/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
6 November 2001

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (e)
Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Islamic Republic of Iran:* revised draft resolution

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997, 53/189 of 15 December 1998, 54/224 of 22 December 1999 and 55/202 of 20 December 2000,

Recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[2] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also the Declaration[3] and review document[3] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

Recalling further the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[4]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[4] TD/390.

01-62291 (E) 061101

Recognizing that, in addition to the general problems of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from their smallness, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited fresh water supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral trading system,

Welcoming the report of the first Alliance of Small Island States workshop on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[5] held in Saint Kitts and Nevis in December 2000, and the report of the third Alliance of Small Island States workshop on climate change, energy and preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[6] held in Cyprus in January 2001,

Noting the significant efforts to implement the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, including through necessary financial support from the international donor community,

Acknowledging the efforts of small island developing States to convene, in cooperation with the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, a series of capacity-building workshops targeted at issues of specific relevance to small island developing States,

Welcoming the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Welcoming also the offer of the Government of Jamaica to host the first Alliance of Small Island States workshop on trade, sustainable development and small island developing States in December 2001,

Noting the current efforts of the Alliance of Small Island States to organize an interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States for the World Summit for Sustainable Development, to be held in Singapore in January 2002, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 2001/PC/1 of the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[7]

Emphasizing the critical need for the financing of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[8]

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[5] A/55/765, annex.

[6] E/CN.17/2001/11, annex.

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/56/19), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[8] See A/S-22/4.

Noting with appreciation the contribution by some donor countries towards further implementation of the Programme of Action, and underlining the need for those efforts to be intensified and supplemented by other donor countries and agencies,

Noting the work being undertaken by the Committee for Development Policy and other international organizations on a vulnerability index, which incorporates, inter alia, environmental and economic vulnerability factors,

1. *Takes note* of the Report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for strong and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[2] and of the Declaration[3] and review document[4] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session to assist small island developing States in their efforts to enhance their capacities to effectively mitigate the impacts of globalization and achieve sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* efforts at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Invites* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system and the regional commissions and organizations, within their respective mandates, to reflect measures for the implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes;

5. *Calls* upon donors, as well as all relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations, to support the interregional preparatory meeting of small island developing States to be held in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action;

7. *Urges* all relevant organizations, in particular the Committee for Development Policy, to finalize as a matter of urgency the work on the development of a vulnerability index to assist affected developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in bringing resolution to their concerns;

8. *Welcomes* the strengthened Small Island Developing States Unit of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to consider ways to further strengthen the Unit, inter alia, by establishing the Small Island Developing States Information Network within the Unit and by assisting small island developing States with, inter alia, project implementation advice and assistance in the identification of short and long-term capacity needs through coordination with regional and international institutions, and to make proposals in that regard;

9. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to consider further ways and means of increasing and improving the United Nations system-wide coordination of and dissemination of information on activities in support of small island developing States and the Programme of Action, through the Small Island Developing States Unit, including an inter-agency task force to carry out these tasks;

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[9] A/56/170.

10. *Welcomes* the contributions of donor countries to the strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit and SIDSnet, and encourages other Member States to make contributions, in particular in support of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States";

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (c)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/204 of 20 December 2000 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[1]

Noting with satisfaction that, as indicated in operative paragraph 1 of its resolution 55/204, the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held in Bonn from 11 to 22 December 2000,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting with satisfaction that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 to 12 October 2001,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for the organization of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties as well as its special events,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

01-62056 (E) 051101

Welcoming the strong appeal made to the Global Environment Facility Council by the President of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly urging the international community to designate the Facility as the financial mechanism of the Convention,

Also welcoming the insistent call made by the Secretary-General for the Convention to be provided with a financial mechanism similar to the one that the international community has identified for its two sister Conventions, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3] and also for the new Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

Further welcoming the decision taken by the Council of the Facility at its May 2001 session related to the designation of land degradation (desertification and deforestation) as a focal area of the Facility as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world, and that joint actions of the international community are needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought, including the integration of strategies for poverty eradication,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, in particular the adoption of the Declaration on the Commitments to Enhance the Implementation of the Obligations under the Convention;

3. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

4. *Notes* with satisfaction the establishment of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, and invites Parties and other actors to participate in the first session of the Committee, which shall be held from 18 to 29 November 2002, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision 2/COP.5 of 12 October 2001;

5. *Invites* the next Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, to be held in October 2002 in Beijing, to designate desertification as a focal area of the Facility and to identify the Facility as the principal financial mechanism for the implementation of the Convention;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention of the Panel of Eminent Personalities to consider the effective and timely implementation of the Convention, and invites the co-organizers of the Panel to transmit the

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[2] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[3] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[4] A/56/175.

outcome of its work to the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

7. *Invites* the World Summit on Sustainable Development to take into account, in the course of its deliberations during the preparatory process and the Summit itself, the challenges of and opportunities in combating desertification, controlling land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought in affected developing countries, including those relating to financial resources and achieving sustainable development, taking into consideration the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and therefore calls upon the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements, through bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention and contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention, and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in this regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

10. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[5]

11. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to implement decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board pertaining to the cooperation between the Programme and the secretariat of the Convention;

12. *Approves* the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the United Nations Secretariat and the permanent secretariat of the Convention for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties not later than 31 December 2006;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

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[5] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7-11.

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (c)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Islamic Republic of Iran:* revised draft resolution

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/204 of 20 December 2000 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[1]

Noting with satisfaction that, as indicated in paragraph 1 of its resolution 55/204, the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held in Bonn from 11 to 22 December 2000,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Germany for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties,

Noting with satisfaction that the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 to 12 October 2001,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Switzerland for the organization of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties as well as its special events,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

01-62300 (E) 061101

Welcoming the strong appeal made to the Global Environment Facility Council by the President of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly urging the international community to designate the Facility as the financial mechanism of the Convention,

Also welcoming the insistent call made by the Secretary-General for the Convention to be provided with a financial mechanism similar to the one that the international community has identified for its two sister Conventions, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3] and also for the new Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,

Further welcoming the decision taken by the Council of the Facility at its May 2001 session related to the designation of land degradation (desertification and deforestation) as a focal area of the Facility as a means of enhancing its support for the successful implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world, and that joint actions of the international community are needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought, including the integration of strategies for poverty eradication,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, in particular the adoption of the Declaration on the Commitments to Enhance the Implementation of the Obligations under the Convention;

3. *Also welcomes* the outcome of the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, and invites Parties and other actors to participate in the first session of the Committee, which shall be held from 18 to 29 November 2002, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision 2/COP.5 of 12 October 2001;

5. *Invites* the next Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, to be held in October 2002 in Beijing, to designate desertification as a focal area of the Facility and to identify the Facility as the principal financial mechanism for the implementation of the Convention;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the secretariat of the Convention of the Panel of Eminent Personalities to consider the effective and timely implementation of the Convention, and invites the co-organizers of the Panel to transmit the

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[2] A/AC.237/18 (Part II)/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex I.

[3] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[4] A/56/175.

outcome of its work to the preparatory process of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

7. *Invites* the World Summit on Sustainable Development to take into account, in the course of its deliberations during the preparatory process and the Summit itself, the challenges of and opportunities in combating desertification, controlling land degradation and mitigating the effects of drought in affected developing countries, including those relating to financial resources and achieving sustainable development, taking into consideration the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and therefore calls upon the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements, through bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention and contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention, and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in this regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

10. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[5]

11. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002-2003 the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to implement decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board pertaining to the cooperation between the Programme and the secretariat of the Convention;

13. *Approves* the continuation of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the United Nations Secretariat and the permanent secretariat of the Convention for a further five-year period, to be reviewed by the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties not later than 31 December 2006;

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[5] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7-11.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

United Nations A/C.2/56/L.18

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 96 (a)
Sectoral policy questions: business and development

United States of America: draft resolution

Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 54/204 of 22 December 1999,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

1. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Business and development";

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations, to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a follow-up report on the continuing implementation of resolution 54/204.

[1] A/56/442.

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United Nations A/C.2/56/L.19

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (a)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

World Summit on Sustainable Development

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.11

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Request contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.11, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to launch a comprehensive and proactive public information campaign to raise global awareness about sustainable development while also building broad international support for the World Summit and its goals.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and to the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003

2. The activities referred to above would fall under programme 23, Public information, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and section 26, Public information, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. Consistent with the position reflected in paragraph 26.9 of that programme budget section, no financial provision has yet been made for the promotional campaign of the World Summit on Sustainable Development referred to in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

01-62212 (E) 071101

III. Additional requirements for the biennium 2002-2003

3. Public information activities would highlight the goals and purposes of the conference and sessions of its preparatory committee, with a view to attracting wide support and interest in it. The Department of Public Information, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, would develop an information strategy. In this connection, general temporary assistance of $143,500 would be required in 2002 for coordination and implementation of the public information programme, including handling of media outreach and queries to interest journalists in the issues related to the Conference, to encourage the international news media to cover the Conference, along with media list updating and production of print materials, and to translate the English version into the five other official languages for the coverage of the Conference on the United Nations web site and for graphic design and translation.

4. Other requirements in the amount of $209,000 would provide for writing, translation, printing and distribution of kits, posters and follow-up publications in six official languages; production of two World Chronicle television programmes on the World Summit and a number of radio programmes; other promotional activities through the United Nations information centres, regional projects, special exhibits, and banners; and coverage of the Summit and the meetings of the Preparatory Committee through webcasting and the rental of relevant equipment. Therefore, total estimated costs for public information activities mentioned in paragraph 4 would amount to $352,500.

IV. Potential for absorption

5. Resources required to implement the request cannot be covered from within the overall resources requested under section 26, Public information, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

V. Contingency fund

6. It will be recalled that under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the approved programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures proposed exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities.

7. Should it not prove possible to meet the cost required from the contingency fund, the activities and outputs to be carried out under section 26 foreseen for the biennium 2002-2003 would have to be further reprogrammed and modified beyond the proposals included in the present statement.

VI. Action required by the General Assembly

8. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/56/L.11, it is estimated that an additional appropriation of $352,500 would arise under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 under section 26, Public information.

United Nations A/C.2/56/L.20

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98
Environment and sustainable development

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 55/200 of 20 December 2000 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling further the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme[1] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

Taking note of the progress being made by the United Nations Environment Programme in preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts already made to realize the objectives of the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, supports the early and full implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999, and requests that the report of the Environmental Management Group be made available to the Member States;

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/56/25).

01-62379 (E) 081101

3. *Notes* the ongoing process initiated by decision 21/21 of 9 February 2001 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on establishing an open-ended intergovernmental group of ministers or their representatives on international environmental governance, whose outcome will be submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development for consideration at its third session;

4. *Underlines* the need for sufficient financial resources on a stable and predictable basis to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider, with a view to strengthening the United Nations Environment Programme, a substantial increase in the budgetary allocation for the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi in the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

United Nations A/C.2/56/L.21

General Assembly

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9 November 2001

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (a)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: women in development

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997 and 54/210 of 22 December 1999 and all of its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and also the relevant resolutions and the agreed conclusions, including those on women in the economy,[1] adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome documents of the special session of General Assembly, entitled Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for twenty-first century,[3] and other recent major United Nations conferences and summits,

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration which calls for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable,

Recognizing the significant contribution that women make to the economy and the major force that they represent for change and development in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1, agreed conclusions 1997/3.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] Resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

01-62967 (E) 091101

community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing also in this context the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, equity, popular participation and political freedom for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing further that education and training, particularly in business, trade, administration, information and communication technologies and other new technologies are essential for gender equality, women empowerment and poverty eradication,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Aware that, although globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have made women, especially in developing countries and in particular the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility,

Recognizing that some effects of market liberalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of women in the agricultural sector, including through the loss of employment among small-scale farmers who are more likely to be women than men, and emphasizing that small-scale women farmers need special support and empowerment so as to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing also that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through an improved outlet access, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Aware that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by the lack of equal access between women and men to credit, technology, support services, land and information,

Emphasizing the promotion of programmes aimed at financial intermediation with a view to ensuring the access of rural women to credit and to agricultural inputs and implements and, in particular, to easing collateral requirements for access to finance by women,

Expressing its concern about the under-representation of women in economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policy formulation, implementation and evaluation,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on women in development: access to financial resources: a gender perspective;[4]

2. *Calls* for the accelerated and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the relevant provisions contained in the outcome of all other major United Nations conferences and summits;

3. *Stresses* that a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life is necessary for the effective integration of women in development;

4. *Urges* Governments to develop and to promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy-making;

5. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

6. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for promoting sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities to generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

7. *Urges* all Governments to ensure the equal access of women to education, training, employment, technology and economic and financial resources, including credit, in particular for rural women and women in the informal sector, and to facilitate, where appropriate, the transition of women from the informal to the formal sector;

8. *Also urges* all Governments to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women who require proper legal assistance;

9. *Calls upon* Governments and entrepreneurial associations to facilitate the access of young women and women entrepreneurs to education and training in business, administration and information and communication technologies;

10. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment and, in this regard, notes the importance of sound national financial systems and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

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[4] A/56/321 and Corr. 1.

11. *Stresses* the need for international assistance to enable women in developing countries, particularly grass-roots women's groups, to have full access to and use of new technologies, including information technologies, for their empowerment;

12. *Calls upon* Governments to encourage the financial sector to mainstream a gender perspective in their policies and programmes, in particular by:

(a) Exploring viable venues to reach people living in poverty, in particular women, including through international public and/or private funds;

(b) Designing savings schemes that are attractive to the poor and to poor women in particular;

(c) Undertaking research to learn more about the characteristics, financial needs and performance of businesses owned by women;

(d) Working towards equal treatment for women clients, through the provision of comprehensive gender-awareness training for staff at all levels, and better representation of women in decision-making positions;

13. *Requests* Governments to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making and policy formulation and implementation at all levels so that their priorities, skills and potentials can be adequately reflected in national policy;

14. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation, family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments and also to promote the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

15. *Also calls upon* the international community to make efforts to mitigate the effects of excess volatility and economic disruption, which have a disproportionately negative impact on women, and to enhance trade opportunities for developing countries in order to improve the economic conditions of women;

16. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system and relevant organizations to give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries to ensure the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts of Governments to ensure, inter alia, increased access of women to health care, capital, education, training and technology and full and equal participation in all decision-making;

17. *Calls upon* developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for the least developed countries, so as to assist the developing countries in implementing strategies to eradicate poverty and to promote development and gender equality;

18. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to provide the necessary financial resources to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon in the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other United Nations conferences and summits;

19. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

20. *Also urges* the International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held at Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002, to examine all aspects of financing for development from a gender perspective in order to ensure the access of women to financial resources;

21. *Reiterates* its requests to the Secretary-General to update the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session; as in the past, this survey should focus on selective emerging development issues that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including the impact of globalization on the empowerment of women and their integration in development;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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Fifty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (c)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: high-level dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership

Islamic Republic of Iran:* draft resolution

High-level dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998, 54/213 of 22 December 1999 and 55/193 of 20 December 2000,

Reaffirming its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, entitled "United Nations Millennium Declaration",

Recalling the Agenda for Development[1] and the relevant provisions on its follow-up and implementation, and the need to give impetus to international economic cooperation for development so as to follow up on the Agenda effectively,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence, shared responsibility and the partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of an enabling environment and sound economic policy at both the national and the international levels,

Taking note of the need to ensure the integrated and coordinated follow-up and implementation by the United Nations system of the outcome of major United Nations conferences and summits,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.
[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

01-62935 (E) 091101

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of continued constructive dialogue and genuine partnership to promote further international economic cooperation for development;

2. *Decides* to convene the third two-day high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

3. *Decides also* that the timing, the themes and the modalities of the third high-level dialogue will be decided through the intergovernmental process at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with Governments, all relevant parts of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to propose themes for the promotion of international economic cooperation for the third high-level dialogue for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution.